

Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 205

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 11451

PASS COMMERCE J. WILLIAMS, OFFICE OF PRODUCT STANDARDS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TECH, EEC

SUBJECT: EC METROLOGY -- MEASURE OF LIQUIDS OTHER THAN WATER

REFS: A. STATE 299848 B. EC-A-488, DEC. 2, 1975

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL A, ON DEC. 22 THE MISSION CONTACTED JACQUES FAURE, THE EC COMMISSION DIVISION CHIEF IN THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR THE INTERNAL MARKET, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HARMONIZATION OF EC METROLOGICAL STANDARDS. WE EXPLANIED THAT THE US HAD SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED EC COUNCIL DIRECTIVE ON MEASURING SYSTEMS FOR LIQUIDS OTHER THAN WATER AS PER REFTEL A. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT CHANGES HAD BEEN MADE AT THE LONDON TECHNICAL MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL METROLOGY (OIML) TO THE DRAFT OIML DOCUMENT UPON WHICH THE COMMISSION'S DRAFT DIRECTIVE WAS BASED.

2. FAURE KNEW OF THE CHANGES THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AT
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THE OIML MEETING , (A COMMISSION OFFICIAL WAS PRESENT).

HE SAID THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD MAKE THE NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS IN ITS DRAFT DIRECTIVE TO REFLECT THE LONDON CHANGES IF THE MEMBER STATES DID NOT DO SO THEMSELVES DURING THE EC COUNCIL WORKING GROUP'S DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSAL. THE PROPOSED DRAFT DIRECTIVE WAS SENT TO THE EC COUNCIL ON NOM. 21, 1975, AND FAURE EXPECTED IT TO BE AT LEAST A YEAR BEFORE IT WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE EC COUNCIL. DURING THE CONVERSATION, FAURE IMPLIED THAT OIML HAD BEEN DRAGGING ITS FEET AND THAT IT HAD TAKEN THE COMMISSION'S SUBMISSION OF THE DRAFT DIRECTIVE TO THE COUNCIL TO PROVOKE CHANGES IN THE OIML DRAFT.

3. THE DRAFT DIRECTIVE, WHICH IS ENTITLED "PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DIRECTIVE ON THE APPROXIMATION OF THE LAWS OF THE MEMBER STATES RELATING TO MEASURING SYSTEMS FOR LIQUID OTHER THAN WATER", WAS PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES VOL. 18 NO. C290 P.2, DATED DEC. 18. WE HAVE FURNISHED A COPY TO J. WILLIAMS, DEPT. OF COMMERCE. BACKGROUND ON THE DRAFT DIRECTIVE CAN BE FOUND IN THE EC COMMISSION'S PROGRAM FOR THE ELIMINATION OF TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE AT PAGE 61 IN THE VOLUME COVERING METROLOGY (SEE REFERENCE B).
GREENWALD

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